UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE INVENTORY AND MONITORING





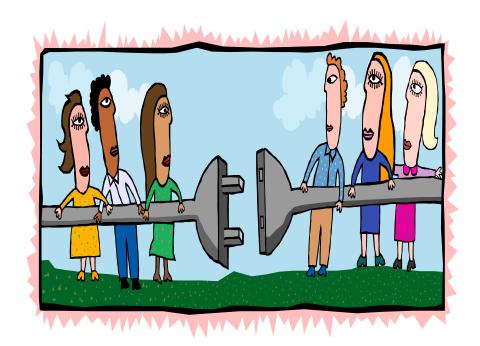


The Future of I & M and the Inventory and Monitoring Issue Team



Team Created March 2000

- Team has made
 strides toward the I
 & M goal in the past
 two years
- Scheduled completion 2003
- Difficult to get people to commit to a long process



Forest Service Inventory and Monitoring Strategic Goal

Forest Service leadership is committed to using state-of-the-art methods and a systems approach to provide highly credible data and information that meet a wide range of customer business needs defined in collaboration with our land management partners.

Our Inventory and Monitoring Principles

- Utilize a Systems Approach
- Customer-Driven Business Requirements
- Collaboration w/ Land Management Partners
- Science Integration: Credible Methods and Data
- Leadership Commitment

I & M as a Multi-scale effort

- Strategic National Scale
- Strategic Regional Scale
- Strategic National Forest ManagementUnit Scale
- Tactical District Scale

National Scale: Forest Inventory and Analysis

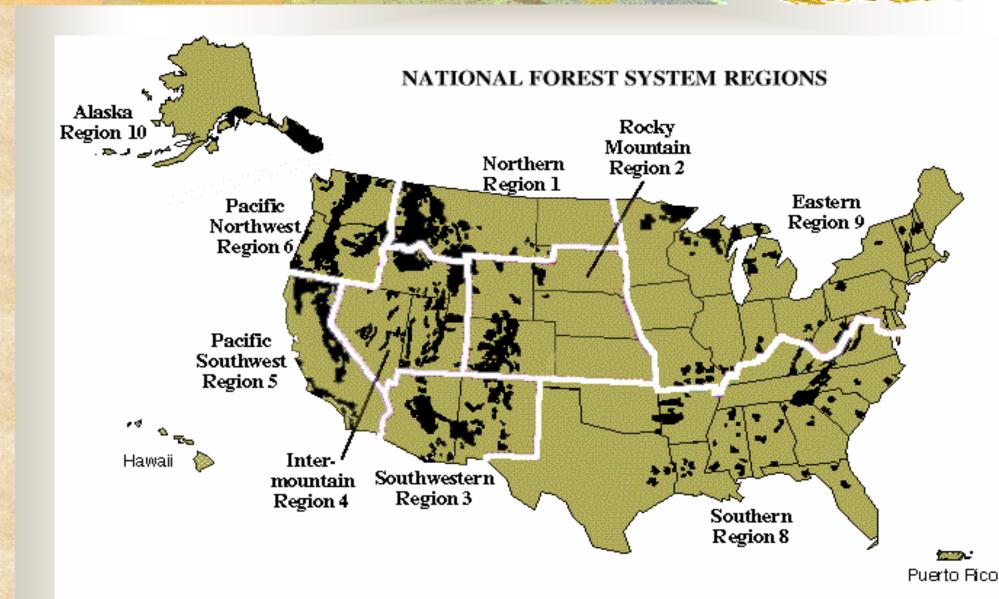
- The FIA Inventory covers forests on all forest lands within the U.S.
- In 1998 in response to the Agriculture Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998, The Forest Service made some major changes to the FIA program by:
 - 1. Changing from a periodic survey to an annual survey,
 - 2. Increasing capacity to analyze and publish data,
 - 3. Combining with the FHM program and adding collection of soil, under-story vegetation, tree crown conditions, coarse woody debris, and lichens.

http://fia/fs.fed.us/wofia.htm

Regional Scale

- Regional Assessments typically examine the conditions of ecological areas (*I & M + analysis*)
- Coordination of I & M at the Forest Level
- (Within the last year, using the Grid system, Forest level can be aggregated up for use in an assessment)
- Most Shrub & Grassland Data (NRCS)

www.fs.fed.us/pages/nfs.html



Forest Management Scale

- The Forest Service and the IMI have tested the Application of Local Unit Criteria & Indicator Development as an step toward integration at this scale
 - Recommending 16 criteria and 58 indicators
 - Flexibility in selection, measurement and assessment is needed to make the process most useful to each National Forest.
 - Core suite of C&I adaptable to the specific conditions of a forest

www.fs.fed.us/institute/lucid

District Scale

- At a district Scale we have traditionally been functionally defined with frequent multiple collection of similar data variables & very little monitoring
- Budget is still functionally provided (budget structure should support the way you want to do the work!)

Funding for three Scales Of Resource Inventories

- National Scale
 Inventories funded by
 Research and S&PF (no regional until this year)
- National Forests &
 Grassland Units are
 funded from NFS
 budget (Intensification)
- Project Scale funded by functional project funds



I & M - Past v.s. Future

PAST

- I & M at each Scale Designed Independently
- Functional Approach
- Money for I & M allocated by Function

FUTURE

- Multi Scale Integrated Design
- Ecosystem Approach
 - Money for I & M at lower scales funneled through a central staff in the WO & then through the 9 regions

National NFS I & M Contacts

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Forest Service Contacts

NFS- WO & Regional FIA- Regional Offices

NFS Regional Contact Information

- Northern Region, R1
- Rocky Mountain, R2

■ Eastern, R9

- Kerry McMenus 406-329-3408
- DeAnne Zwight 303-275-5105,
- Sam Emmons 414-297-3429

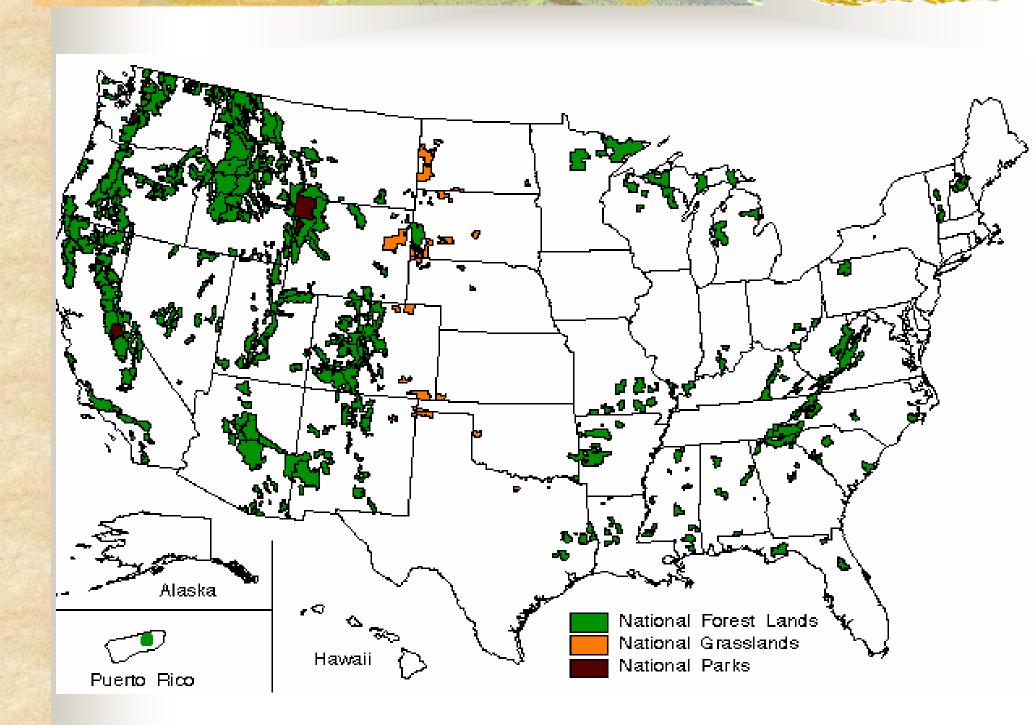
FIA Regional Contacts

- Dennis May- North Central Region, Minn Tel 651-649-5139
- Michael Wilson Rocky Mtn Region, Utah Tel 801-625-5388
- Sue Willits Pacific North West
 Region, Oregon *Tel 503-808-2066*

National Forests and Grasslands and National Parks



Opportunity for Collaboration



Applicable Agreements

- Forest Service & National Park Service 1998
- Forest Service NFS & Research, Feb 2001